

of *C. nebraskensis* Dewey, and *C. Scouleri* is given as a synonym of *C. Lyngbyei* Hornem. by Mackenzie (N. Am. Fl. 18: 415. 1935).

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN, New York, New York

EPILOBIUM PANICULATUM VAR. SUBULATUM IN WISCONSIN.—A single plant of *Epilobium paniculatum* Nutt. var. *subulatum* (Haussk.) Fernald was found by the writer in sandy gravel ballast of a Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad siding a half mile north of Lake station, Milwaukee County, August 13, 1940 (specimen in the herbarium of the University of Wisconsin). The specimen is 35 cm. high, freely branching, with flowers 5.5 mm. long, calyces 3.5 mm. long, petals exceeding the calyces by 2 mm., summit of hypanthium and calyx-tube glabrous, capsules (not fully mature) 16–20 mm. long, on slender pedicels 6–8 mm. long, agreeing with descriptions of the far-western variety *subulatum* (*Epilobium subulatum* Rydb.). This is found from Idaho and Utah to California and British Columbia, and as a relic on Bruce Peninsula, Manitoulin Island and Cloche Peninsula, Ontario.¹ Seeds of *Epilobium paniculatum* have been recorded as occurring in 10% of samples of commercial red clover seed grown in Idaho, Washington and Oregon.² Its occurrence as an impurity in commercial seed and its appearance as an introduction in Wisconsin furnish an example of a relic plant of disrupted range which also behaves as a weed. This would support the hypothesis recently put forward by Griggs,³ that relic species may in some cases owe their survival to the fact that they belong to early stages in ecological succession (as do weeds), and that their habitats have not permitted the development of climax formations.—L. H. SHINNERS, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

¹ Fernald, M. L. Critical plants of the upper Great Lakes region of Ontario and Michigan. RHODORA 37: 324. 1935.

Rydberg, P. A. Flora of the Rocky Mountains and adjacent plains, 2nd ed., p. 589. 1922.

² Proc. Internat. Seed Testing Assoc. 6: 1–22. 1928.

³ Griggs, Robert F. The ecology of rare plants. Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 67: 575–594. 1940.